

THE FIRST WORLD WAR



Battle scene on the western front during World War I.



USA
WORLD

1914

1914 Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife are assassinated.

1914 Germany declares war on Russia and France. Great Britain declares war on Germany and Austria-Hungary.

1915 German U-boats sink the *Lusitania*, and 1,198 people die.

1915 Alexander Graham Bell makes first transcontinental telephone call.



1915

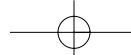
1915 Albert Einstein proposes his general theory of relativity.



1916

1916 Woodrow Wilson is reelected president.

1916 The battles of Verdun and the Somme claim millions of lives.



INTERACT WITH HISTORY

The year is 1917. A bitter war is raging in Europe—a war that has been called a threat to civilization. At home many people are urging America to wake up and get involved, while others are calling for the country to isolate itself and avoid the fight.

Do you think America should enter the war?

Examine the Issues

- Is it right for America to intervene in foreign conflicts?
- When American lives are threatened, how should the government respond?
- Should America go to war to make the world “safe for democracy”?



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1917 The Selective Service Act sets up the draft.

1917 The United States declares war on Germany.

1918 Congress passes the Sedition Act.

1918 President Wilson proposes the League of Nations.

1919 Congress approves the Nineteenth Amendment, granting women the vote.

1917

1918

1919

1917 Russia withdraws from the war.

1918 The Bolsheviks establish a Communist regime in Russia.

1918 The First World War

1919 A worldwide influenza epidemic kills over 30 million.

